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Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

One useful application of the described technologies is upgrading equipment in conventional networks. For example, hairpin avoidance processing (e.g., releasing call legs) can be done transparently to service platform switches. Accordingly, such service platform switches need not be upgraded. Further, the illustrated technologies can be used in systems not having special provisions for avoiding hairpin loops. As a result, conventional switches using ordinary call setup signaling and conventional interfaces can be easily upgraded with without the added expense of incorporating supplementary services, new signal protocols, new interfaces, or new parameters.